

City of Reading Charter Board

Meeting Minutes from February 2, 2016

7:00 pm – Penn Room

Members Present: James Fegley, Susan Williams, Elizabeth Stanley, Thomas Anewalt

Others: Eric Smith, Board Solicitor, Don Spatz, Reading Eagle

I. Administration

- The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by Mr. Fegley.
- No Right to Know requests have been received.
- Meeting minutes from October 20, 2015 were distributed for review. A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Ms. Stanley, 2nd by Mr. Anewalt. The motion passed by unanimous verbal vote.
- Legal invoices from High Swartz for October and November 2015 were circulated for review prior to the meeting. Motion to approve invoices was made by Mr. Anewalt, 2nd by Ms. Stanley. The motion passed by unanimous verbal vote.

II. Education

- A Charter Board general orientation session for newly elected city officials and other interested parties has been scheduled for Monday, February 29th at 5:00 pm. The Board Chair and solicitor are formatting the agenda.

III. Advisory

- By letter dated February 1, 2016 the Solicitor for the City of Reading, Charles D. Younger, Esquire, requested that the Board issue an advisory opinion regarding Charter, Art. IV, section 401(d), relating to the appointment of a Temporary Managing Director. The Solicitor, on behalf of Mayor Scott, asks:
“May the Mayor appoint a Temporary Managing Director without City Council confirmation during the first ninety days of a vacancy in the Managing Director position?”
- The request has been logged as Advisory Opinion #38, and an expedited response has been requested.

IV. Public Comment

- Mr. Spatz requested that the Board initiate an investigation on its own motion regarding the former Mayor's action in transferring the trash and recycling billing and receivables to the Reading Area Water Authority without council approval.

V. Solicitor's Report

- The Board chair announced an Executive Session to confer with counsel regarding the Solicitor's Report, to review with counsel the High Swartz invoices for December 2015, and to confer with counsel regarding Advisory Opinion #38. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:25 pm, and returned to public session at 9:00 pm.

VI. Further Action Items

- A motion was made by Mr. Anewalt, 2nd by Ms. Williams to expedite a response to Advisory Opinion #38. The motion passed by unanimous verbal vote.
- A motion was made by Ms. Williams, 2nd by Ms. Stanley approving payment for High Swartz invoices for December 2015. The motion passed by unanimous verbal vote.

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Susan Williams, Vice Chair